

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Monthly Enforcement Report for actions during April 2011

DISTRIBUTED: August 5, 2011

This report has been prepared to satisfy a statutory obligation the Maine Department of Environmental Protection has to inform the public of certain enforcement resolutions. Please contact Peter Carney at (207) 287-4305 or <u>peter.j.carney@maine.gov</u> for additional information regarding the activities listed in this report. The full text of most Administrative Consent Agreements is available on the Board of Environmental Protection's website at http://www.maine.gov/dep/bep/agenda.htm.

The following cases were resolved to achieve compliance with the law; remediate environmental damage; restore natural resources to appropriate conditions; and impose penalties to deter similar actions in the future.

Administrative Consent Agreements Approved by the Board of Environmental Protection and Office of the Attorney General (party followed by location):

Hazardous Waste:

Parsons Kitchens, Inc., Brownfield, Maine. Parsons Kitchens, Inc. ("Parsons") violated provisions of the Maine Hazardous Waste, Septage and Solid Waste Management Act by discharging hazardous waste lacquer thinner to lands of the state and failing to immediately report and remove the discharges. Parsons violated the Department's rules concerning Standards for Generators of Hazardous Waste by: treating or disposing of hazardous waste lacquer thinner by burning it in a burn pile; failing to determine the hazardous waste lacquer thinner was hazardous waste; failing to label containers of hazardous waste with the words "Hazardous Waste" and the date when waste first began accumulating in the container; failing to store hazardous waste lacquer thinner in a closed container; generating hazardous waste without first obtaining a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency hazardous waste generator identification number; failing to store hazardous waste on a firm working surface and failing to provide secondary containment of hazardous waste; and failing to conduct and document daily inspections of containers of hazardous waste. In addition, Parsons violated provisions of the Department's rules for *Identification of Hazardous* Wastes by treating and disposing of universal waste fluorescent lamps in a burn pile. Following Department involvement, Parsons submitted a written response to the Department indicating that it: ceased the treatment and disposal of hazardous waste by burning; shipped hazardous waste documented during the inspection via a licensed hazardous waste transporter to a disposal facility; began conducting daily inspections of hazardous waste containers; labeled hazardous waste containers as hazardous waste; is keeping containers of hazardous waste closed when not in use; established a universal waste storage area; and has substituted water-based finishes for most coatings to reduce its generation of hazardous waste. To resolve the violations, Parsons agreed to test a well located on the Parsons site for Volatile Organic Compounds and Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds and implement corrective actions if the results indicate that contaminants are above drinking water standards. In addition, Parsons paid \$8,000 as a civil monetary penalty.

Land:

George Conrades, Patsy Conrades, and Muscle Ridge Purchase Trust, South Thomaston, Maine. George Conrades and Patsy Conrades (the "Conrades") violated Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act and the Department's Permit by Rule standards by filing a permit by rule notification form and then not following permit by rule standards. The Conrades and Muscle Ridge Purchase Trust violated Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act by placing fill in and adjacent to a coastal wetland without first obtaining a permit from the Department. Specifically, the Conrades submitted a permit by rule notification form to the Department to install rip rap and access stairs and to repair a lawn and plant trees and ground cover on property owned by Muscle Ridge Purchase Trust. A compliance inspection by the Department revealed that fill had been placed adjacent to the coastal wetland and a granite stepping stone had been placed below the highest annual tide line and in the coastal wetland which is prohibited by the Permit by Rule standards. Subsequent to Department involvement, the site was restored to the



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Monthly Enforcement Report for actions during April 2011

DISTRIBUTED: August 5, 2011

This report has been prepared to satisfy a statutory obligation the Maine Department of Environmental Protection has to inform the public of certain enforcement resolutions. Please contact Peter Carney at (207) 287-4305 or <u>peter.j.carney@maine.gov</u> for additional information regarding the activities listed in this report. The full text of most Administrative Consent Agreements is available on the Board of Environmental Protection's website at http://www.maine.gov/dep/bep/agenda.htm.

satisfaction of Department staff. To resolve the violations, the Conrades and Muscle Ridge Purchase Trust paid \$1,700 as a civil monetary penalty.

Kathleen Littlefield and The Modular Advantage, Harpswell, Maine. Kathleen Littlefield ("Littlefield") and The Modular Advantage violated Maine's *Natural Resources Protection Act* by placing fill or causing fill to be placed in a freshwater wetland without first obtaining a permit from the Department and failing to follow plans submitted and approved pursuant to a Department licensing order. In addition, by conducting or causing to be conducted an activity that involves filling, displacing, or exposing soil without taking measures to prevent unreasonable erosion of soil or sediment beyond the project site, Littlefield and The Modular Advantage violated Maine's *Erosion and Sedimentation Control* law. Specifically, a Department inspection revealed that The Modular advantage, as agent for Littlefield, had placed unpermitted fill in freshwater wetlands on property owned by Littlefield. Subsequent to Department involvement, Littlefield submitted an after-the-fact permit application to retain a portion of the wetland fill and restore the remainder of the disturbed wetland pursuant to an approved plan. A subsequent inspection revealed that plans submitted in support of the after-the-fact permit had not been followed. Additional unpermitted fill had been placed in the wetland and approved erosion control plans had not been followed resulting in some movement of sediment onto an abutting property. To resolve the violations, Littlefield agreed to restore the wetlands in accordance with the approved plan and remove unpermitted fill. In addition, Littlefield and The Modular Advantage paid \$4,234 as a civil monetary penalty.